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PART I.

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT.

Report on the Krishnarajasagara and allied works.

READ—

Letter No. 1504, dated the 25th November 1925, from the Special Officer, Krishnarajasagara Works, submitting the report on the progress of the Krishnarajasagara and allied works for the year 1924-25.

ORDER No. G. 4901-6—G. M. 77-25-5, DATED 4TH JANUARY 1926.

Mr. K. R. Seshachar was the Special Officer in charge of the works throughout the year. The headquarters of the Lower Channels Division were transferred from French Rocks to Mysore.

2. *Important Measures.*—The programme for the year under report with regard to the construction of the dam proper, as sanctioned by the Government Order No. P. W. 208-18—K. R. S. 1418-28, dated 31st December 1923, was to raise the weir at the permanent weir site to 106 feet above the river bed and the remaining part of the dam together with the river gap portion, to 122 feet, so as to allow the floods to pass entirely through the permanent waste weir valley, instead of flowing over the dam in the centre. The design and arrangement of these works were based on the assumption that the highest flood discharge to be passed in the river, would be 250,000 cusecs. But as, during the year under report, the Cauvery brought unprecedented floods of an intensity of 290,000 cusecs, a Committee was appointed with Sir Fredrick St. John Gebbie, Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, as Chairman to advise Government on the design of the surplusing arrangements. The Committee made certain recommendations, in conformity with which a revised estimate for raising the dam to 130 feet with weir at 106 feet, has been prepared and a programme of work to give effect to the revised scheme, involving an immediate expenditure of 22 lakhs, is under the consideration of Government.

After careful consideration of the recommendations of the Krishnarajasagara Committee appointed in 1921, Government, in view of the final settlement arrived at with the Madras Government in their order No. P. W. 115-126—K. R. S. 723-34, dated 1st September 1924, have laid down the policy to be followed in order to secure an adequate return on the outlay involved in the construction of the reservoir by a rapid development of the irrigation and other facilities to be expected in the future. The method of apportioning the revenue separately between the Electrical Works and the Krishnarajasagara ordered in Government Order No. Fl. 1081-4 G. F. 217-16-2, dated 30th August 1919, is no longer suitable, as the two works are closely connected with each other and the development of the Electrical Works would not have been possible without the reservoir. Arrangements have therefore been made to treat the Electrical and the Krishnarajasagara Works as one Financial concern and to maintain Capital and Revenue Accounts on this basis in future. Orders have also been passed for the supply of water for a period of three years in the first instance for the hot weather irrigation in the lands under the river channel below the Krishnarajasagara Reservoir, subject to the payment of certain water rates for growing sugar-cane and manurial crops on lands, not now entitled to any water for a second crop. This measure is expected to be of great help in developing the cultivation of commercial crops such as sugar-cane and enabling the people in the areas concerned to grow manurial crops. It has also been decided to utilise temporarily a part of the storage secured by raising the reservoir to 106 feet for generation of additional 14,000 H. P. at Sivasamudram and the VII Installation of the power scheme for the purpose has been sanctioned. In this way Government expect to be able to utilize the water available satisfactorily until a demand arises for the same by the improvement of the channels and other works required.

3. *Total Grant and Outlay.*—The grant for the year for the works in the Krishnarajasagara Circle under all heads was Rs. 20,54,461. This includes a grant of Rs. 15,80,000 under capital expenditure, Rs. 2,59,500 under Irrigation—major and minor, flood damages, etc., Rs. 1,00,000 under revenue expenditure and Rs. 1,14,961 under Irrigation Cess, District Fund and Palace Fund. The unprecedented floods of July and August 1924, caused very heavy damage to the works in the Cauvery Valley, *viz.*, the Anicuts and the channels and minor damages to the works at the dam and at the Gauging Stations. The grant for the repairs of these damages was Rs. 2,36,000 and the expenditure Rs. 2,34,517. It is gratifying that in spite of damages by the floods there was no interruption in the programme of the work, that supplies for irrigation were also satisfactorily maintained by temporary arrangements and the dam is reported to have stood the very heavy floods of the year well and the very small damage caused by the floods shows the soundness of the masonry work and of the material used. The normal conditions were restored before the succeeding irrigation season. The total outlay during the year was Rs. 18,83,802.

4. *Gauging.*—Gauging observations were conducted at all the stations. Owing to the breaches in the Cauvery Dam by the extraordinary floods, there has been scouring in the bed of the river, and consequently the discharges of the river after the floods were considerably higher, gauge for gauge, than in any previous year. The question of revising the methods of gauging by making allowance for these exceptional conditions is now under correspondence with the Madras Government. At Urachi Station gauging had to be stopped from 15th July to 16th September as the high floods snapped the main cable.

To furnish the Madras Government with complete data, arrangements are being made to prepare a complete map showing the area irrigated in the year 1910 together with the dimensions and plans of all anicuts and head works of channels having their sources in the Cauvery, Lakshmana Thirtha and Hemavati, and a small temporary establishment has been sanctioned for the purpose. The work is progressing and is expected to be completed by the end of December 1925.

5. *Construction.*—The Budget grant under Krishnarajasagara Works was Rs. 15,80,000 and the outlay Rs. 14,22,260. The main work done on the dam during the year consisted of masonry for which the year's grant was Rs. 2,89,000 and the outlay Rs. 4,99,523. The total quantity of masonry done up to the end of the year was 26,718,347 c. ft. at an average rate of Rs. 31-0-9 per 100 c. ft. against 25,074,264 at Rs. 30-15-3 in the previous year. The higher rate for the current year was due to the longer leads and the higher lifts involved in filling up the weir gap portion.

6. *Acquisition of Lands.*—Acquisition of lands coming under submersion for 106 contour of the reservoir was in progress though the amount spent on awards, *viz.*, Rs. 10,221 is small. Steps have been taken to settle raiyats whose lands were submerged in different places and an expenditure of Rs. 12,497 was incurred for this purpose. The progress under this head is very slow and immediate efforts should be made to settle existing claims.

Miscellaneous.—There was a lapse of Rs. 33,960 under miscellaneous works such as the maintenance of buildings and roads, water-supply and sanitation at Krishnarajasagara and this is stated to be due to the exrta work devolving on the establishment in filling up the river gap and raising the dam to 1·22 ft. deep.

Waste Weir.—The level of the masonry over the waste weir sluices was raised from 110 to 115 ft. and the construction of the 16 vents of 80 level waste weir sluices, the masonry of the permanent headworks and the widening of the tunnel were completed.

The total expenditure incurred up to the end of the year exceeded the approved estimates under almost every sub-head. A revised estimate allowing for all the excesses in expenditure up-to-date has recently been sanctioned by Government.

Contribution.—The actual collection towards contribution on lands is only Rs. 34,776 against the anticipated sum of Rs. 1,00,000. No explanation has been given for this poor collection.

Establishment.—The grant for establishment during the year under works was Rs. 1,46,600, and was slightly exceeded as the expenditure was Rs. 1,46,089. The establishment charges including the pay of the Special Officer worked out to 12 per cent of the outlay during the year.

7. *Canal Works.*—Work was in progress on 5 channels. The sanctioned estimate of Rs. 59,200 on the Right Bank Low Level Canal from Krishnarajasagara was exceeded on account of the extra works found necessary during execution, and consequently a revised estimate of Rs. 65,598 was sanctioned. The work on the Left Bank Low Level Canal from Krishnarajasagara was completed. There was lapse of Rs. 3,646 chiefly under land acquisition in the grant to the Chamaraja Right Bank Channel.

There was a very small lapse under irrigation cess fund, the expenditure being Rs. 1,09,648 against a grant of Rs. 1,10,000.

On account of chronic complaints of short supplies of water from 3 channels branching from the Viraja Nadi Channel due to the raiyats neglecting the maintenance work, these channels were transferred to the Public Works Department and the raiyats' liability was converted into an acreage cess of one rupee per acre. It is stated that the supplies of water due to these arrangements are now more satisfactory.

8. The increase in the total area under the new channels under cultivation is 1,251 acres while in the year 1923-24, it was 648 acres. There is still an area of 5,326 acres available for cultivation. It is reported that the increase in future is likely to be slow as the remaining extent is in scattered bits and not in compact blocks, and considerable time is likely to elapse before the supplies of water are properly regulated and adjusted. Government are not satisfied that the difficultics are insurmountable and desire that every endeavour should be made by the Department to see that the available water is fully utilised and all the land is brought under irrigation, within the next three years.

9. A New Survey Division was constituted for preparing projects to give effect to the irrigation rights conferred on the Mysore Government under the Agreement, according to which Mysore is allowed to construct additional reservoirs and bring under irrigation 2,35,000 acres in the Cauvery Valley in addition to the existing irrigation of about 1,10,000 acres. General surveys and investigations were carried out and a preliminary report was submitted to Government. The estimated cost of the reservoirs and canal schemes, when all the works are carried out, will be about Rs. 5·5 crores, exclusive of Rs. 2·2 crores for the 106 storage of Krishnarajasagara. The question as to the manner in which this expenditure may be provided and the years over which it may be distributed is engaging the attention of Government.

10. Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Connought visited the works on 7th March 1925. The Dewan inspected the works after the floods in August 1924.

11. Government are pleased to convey their appreciation of the capacity and resourcefulness shown by the staff as a whole, in dealing with the serious situation caused by the unprecedented floods during the year and the zeal and ability with which the different items of the programme have been carried on. The thanks of the Government are due to the Special Officer, Mr. K. R. Seshachar, not only for his efficient administration during the year but also for the comprehensive manner in which he has taken up the investigation of schemes for the future development of the project.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.

REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Report on the Administration of the Revenue Department.

READ—

The *Report on the Administration of the Revenue Department for the year 1924-25 received with the Revenue Commissioner's letter No. C. Per. A. 91—25-26, dated the 14th October 1925.

*(Printed as annexure.)

ORDER NO. R. 3277-85—L. R. 10-25-12, DATED 4TH JANUARY 1926.

Mr. K. Chandy was the Revenue Commissioner till 18th February 1925, when Mr. C. S. Balasundaram Iyer assumed charge of the Office on the elevation of Mr. Chandy as Member of Council. There was no change in the Deputy Commissioners of 4 Districts, *viz.*, Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Shimoga.

SEASONAL CONDITIONS.

2. *Rainfall.*—The rainfall during the year was more copious than in the previous year almost throughout the whole State. The Mungar rains were timely and well distributed, but the hingar rains, were not adequate in parts of Tumkur, Kolar and Chitaldrug Districts and the seasonal conditions particularly in parts of Tumkur and Kolar Districts continued to cause anxiety, though to a smaller extent than in the year previous.

3. *Floods.*—The unprecedented and abnormal floods caused by the heavy rainfall during July and August 1924 in certain parts of the State and also adjoining British Territory brought about the submersion of many river side villages and extensive areas under cultivation in the Districts of Mysore, Kadur, Hassan and Shimoga. The District of Chitaldrug also suffered to some extent. About 655 villages were wholly or partly submerged and 6,070 houses were damaged. Seventy-seven tanks and a number of channels got breached or otherwise damaged. Besides the loss of house and other property valued at about Rs. 5,50,334, about 15,744 acres of lands were damaged, the total extent of damage to movable and immovable property being estimated at about Rs. 9 lakhs. The Dewan, Members of Council, the Revenue Commissioner and the Chief Engineer, toured in the flooded parts. The situation was effectively met with by the several measures of relief sanctioned in the Government resolution of 8th August 1924. A Central Flood Relief Committee at Headquarters and District Committees in the affected parts were formed to collect private subscriptions and enlist public support in carrying out relief measures. Officials and non-officials rose to the occasion and co-operated in relieving distress to the sufferers. The thanks of Government have already been conveyed for the signal services rendered in this connection by the public-spirited private gentlemen and the officers of Government.

To expedite the reconstruction of houses in important river side places like Shimoga, Nanjangud, T.-Narsipur and Talkad which were seriously affected by the floods, House-building Co-operative Societies were organised and about Rs. 1½ lakhs